

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of identifying a peptide which binds to a heat shock protein, comprising:

(i) contacting a phage display library comprising a plurality of bacteriophage which express, in a surface protein, a plurality of inserted peptides with a hsp target in a physiologic binding buffer;

(ii) isolating a phage which binds to the hsp target; and

(iii) identifying the inserted peptide expressed in the surface protein of the phage.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the ionic strength of the binding buffer is equivalent to the ionic strength of an aqueous solution of 100-150 mM NaCl.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the binding buffer comprises calcium ion at a concentration of 1-25 millimolar.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the binding buffer comprises a reducing agent.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the binding buffer comprises a non-hydrolyzable nucleotide.

6. A method of identifying a peptide which binds to a heat shock protein, comprising:

(i) contacting a phage display library comprising a plurality of bacteriophage which express, in a surface protein, a plurality of inserted peptides, with a hsp target bound to a benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic, in a binding buffer;

(ii) isolating a phage which binds to the hsp target; and

(iii) identifying the inserted peptide expressed in the surface protein of the phage.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic is herbimycin A.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic is geldanamycin.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the binding buffer is physiologic.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the ionic strength of the binding buffer is equivalent to the ionic strength of an aqueous solution of 100-150 mM NaCl.
11. The method of claim 9, wherein the binding buffer comprises calcium ion at a concentration of 1-25 micromolar.
12. The method of claim 9, wherein the binding buffer comprises a reducing agent.
13. The method of claim 9, wherein the binding buffer comprises a non-hydrolyzable nucleotide.
14. A conjugate peptide comprising (i) a tether which comprises a peptide identified by the method of claim 1; and (ii) an antigenic peptide.
15. A conjugate peptide comprising (i) a tether which comprises a peptide identified by the method of claim 6; and (ii) an antigenic peptide.
16. A method of inducing an immune response in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering an effective amount of the conjugate peptide of claim 14.
17. A method of inducing an immune response in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering an effective amount of the conjugate peptide of claim 14 bound to a heat shock protein.
18. A method of inducing an immune response in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering, to the subject, a composition comprising a conjugate peptide, wherein the conjugate peptide comprises (i) a portion which may be bound to a heat shock protein under physiologic conditions and (ii) a portion which is antigenic, wherein a heat shock protein is not concurrently administered with the conjugate peptide.
19. A conjugate peptide comprising an antigenic peptide and a benzaquinone ansamycin antibiotic.
20. The conjugate peptide of claim 19, wherein the benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic is geldanamycin.

21. The conjugate peptide of claim 19, wherein the benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic is herbimycin A.

22. The conjugate peptide of claim 14, further comprising a benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic.

23. The conjugate peptide of claim 22, wherein the benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic is geldanamycin.

24. The conjugate peptide of claim 22, wherein the benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic is herbimycin A.

25. The conjugate peptide of claim 15, further comprising a benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic.

26. The conjugate peptide of claim 25, wherein the benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic is geldanamycin.

27. The conjugate peptide of claim 25, wherein the benzoquinone ansamycin antibiotic is herbimycin A.

28. A method of inducing an immune response in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering an effective amount of the conjugate peptide of claim 19.

29. A method of inducing an immune response in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering an effective amount of the conjugate peptide of claim 22.

30. A method of inducing an immune response in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering an effective amount of the conjugate peptide of claim 25.